

ANNAPOLIS PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

WESTLAND



During World War II Detroit's black population doubled from 150,000 to 300,000 and faced the extreme housing shortage that had existed since the early twentieth century. Restrictive covenants, inflated rents, and other discriminatory practices confined blacks to certain areas and hindered their ability to purchase property. In 1953 brothers Julius and William Schwartz broke ground for Annapolis Park, a modern suburban neighborhood for African Americans. Because few banks would approve loans for potential buyers, the Schwartzes and their brother-in-law Jack Kellman established the Franklin Mortgage Company. By 1957 Annapolis Park's 354 lots were fully developed and African American families were able to live in a well-built home with "nice trees, nice country living." Annapolis Park Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Location: Two Markers located at Middlebelt Road and Hanover Boulevard, and Annapolis Avenue and Julius Boulevard

Applicant/Sponsor: Southeast Westland Homeowners Association

Marker Erected: 2006

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MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MARKERS

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